

Service Provider Dark Fiber Request Approval Process Standards

- A. Dark Fiber Use Requests. After receipt, of a Service Provider dark fiber request, District staff will conduct an evaluation to determine if Spare dark fiber is Available to meet such request. Fiber must be both Available and Spare to be approved for use. After conducting such review, the District will provide written approval of such request (subject to Service Provider's subsequent execution of necessary license agreement(s)) or written disapproval with an explanation of the reasons for denial.
- B. Availability Criteria. In determining that fiber is Available, the District will conduct a review including but not limited to the following:
1. Specific location of the request, i.e. point A to point Z.
 2. Is there currently fiber infrastructure connecting point A and point Z?
 3. Fiber infrastructure strand count between point A and point Z compared to the number of fibers requested. If the current infrastructure or fiber count is insufficient for the request, the District may offer to construct them for a cost, but is under no obligation to make such an offer.
 4. If the dark fiber request will cost the District more over the term of any such dark fiber request for operation and maintenance than that of its average dark fiber use, then the dark fiber request may be denied.
 5. The suitability of the fiber to serve the intended purpose, if the purpose is known. No guarantee of suitability will be made other than what is contained in the Service Level Agreement contained in a Telecommunications Infrastructure License Agreement with the District. Factors in determining such suitability include, but may not be limited to the following:
 - a. The optical characteristics of the installed fiber, such as, but not limited to loss, dispersion, and reflectance.
 - b. Other physical characteristics, such as, but not limited to route, the number of patching interfaces and connector type.
- C. Spare Criteria. Spare fiber must be Available as defined above for the District's use. In determining that fiber is Spare, the District will conduct a review of the impact to the District's internal and external telecommunications requirements, including but not limited to the following:
1. Existing Use. Fiber used in an existing circuit is not considered Spare.
 2. Current Request. Fiber under consideration for a previous request is not considered Spare.

3. Internal Use. Fiber documented to be used for District internal telecommunications is not considered Spare.
 4. Operational Needs. Whether such dark fiber request will negatively impact the District's current and/or future operational needs to meet its internal requirements, recognizing that internal requirements may change over time. Examples of District's internal requirements that must be reviewed include, but are not limited to: Telecommunications support of electrical, generation transmission and distribution, (part of which includes its SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system), corporate network, security and critical infrastructure (CEII) functions. These internal requirements shall not be negatively impacted by any dark fiber request.
 5. Industry Practice. In determining Spare fiber, the District will consider best fiber engineering industry standards and other District criteria as described herein, which may modify industry standards. Currently, the District recognizes that industry standard for Spare fiber infrastructure is retention of fiber pairs in an amount around 15% of the total fibers within the fiber cable. This is a percentage in addition to fiber that has been specifically reserved. A similar concept will be extended to other system elements such as patch panels and splice cases. Twelve fibers is the minimum size to which this standard is expected to apply. For instance, it would not apply to a 4-count fiber drop serving a single location.
 6. Maintenance. To facilitate both routine and emergency work on its fiber system or other utilities, the District shall maintain appropriate level of fiber capacity and amount of fiber to perform routine and emergency maintenance activity. Examples of such activities include, but are not limited to, replacement of failed circuits, back-up circuits, work-around paths and temporary routes.
- D. Dark Fiber Design and Engineering Practices Review. Recognizing that District and industry dark fiber design and practices may change over time due to internal or external factors, the District will conduct a review of its dark fiber design and engineering practices from time to time.